

may be appointed by your Excellency for the said General Assembly to make good their said several Charges against the said Chief Justice, and that if the said Chief Justice shall confess the same or be found Guilty thereof, [25] that then your Excellency will be pleased to cause the said Chief Justice to be immediately and from thenceforth suspended from all his Offices and Employments, until His Majesty's Pleasure be farther known thereupon, and in so doing, your Excellency will remove him who has been the Source, Spring, and chief Author of most of the Differences and Disturbances which have happened in Government since your Excellency's arrival, do a most exemplary Piece of Justice both to the King and People, and restore Peace and Tranquility to the Province.

“ The General Assembly do further most humbly Request your Excellency that the said Chief Justice be in the mean Time sequestered from the Council Board pending the Debate and Examination of the said Articles, it being (as they conceive) contrary to natural Right and Justice that any Person should set and Vote in his own Case.

“ And the said General Assembly by Protection reserving to themselves the Liberty of exhibiting at any Time hereafter any other and further Articles of Complaint against the said Chief Justice, and of replying to any Answers, that he shall make thereon, and offering Proofs of the Premises, and to any other Articles to be by them hereafter exhibited against him, and of further explaining themselves upon all and every the same Articles of Complaint if need require.

After reading the said Articles the House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House, to Debate on the said Articles, unanimously chose Mr. *Thomas Hunter* Chairman. “ Mr. Speaker moved, and was seconded by Mr. *Benjamin Hill*, that the Articles exhibited against the Honourable *William Smith*, Esq; Chief Justice might be Debated, and that the Proofs of the same be produced immediately that the House might resolve whither the Articles exhibited are sufficiently proved to this House, for this House to Impeach the Chief Justice.

“ To which Mr. *Samuel Swann* objected, and was seconded by Sir *Richard Everard*.

[26] And it was put to the Vote, and carried in the Affirmative of a Majority of ten Voices.” Thus far the Journal in forms us.